SUPER 25

USA TODAY

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL RANKINGS

Final 1995 rankings

1. Germantown, Tenn. (38-0)

Last week: 1. **Season recap:** Won second Class 3A state title. Earlier, won prestigious Upper Deck Classic in Fullerton, Calif. First team All-USA IF Jay Hood batted .436 with 45 runs, 44 RBI and was 5-0 as pitcher. Chris Lotterhos batted .484 with 52 runs and 34 RBI. Jr. Matt Hale was 10-0 with 1.95 ERA.

2. Elkins, Missouri City, Texas (32-2)

Last week: 2. **Season recap:** Won first Class 5A state title in second varsity season. Jr. Steven Truitt batted .423 with 42 RBI and 12 HRs. Ivan Heredia was 12-0 with 0.41 ERA. Jason Gray batted .372 with 25 RBI and was 14-for-14 in stolen bases.

3. Fountain Valley, Calif. (26-3-1)

Last week: 3. **Season recap:** Won second consecutive Southern Section Division I title. Greg Hanoian batted .436 with 36 RBI. Dan Keller batted .381 with school-record 11 doubles and was 7-0 with 1.42 ERA. Chris Ponchak batted .333 with 30 runs and was 5-1 with 1.45 ERA.

4. Key West, Fla. (35-2)

Last week: 4. **Season recap:** Won last 28 games and Class 4A state title, setting school records with 35 wins, .341 team batting average and 11.0 runs a game. Adrian Merkey batted .448 with 21 RBI. Jr. Craig Lariz batted .444 with 42 RBI and five HRs.

5. Mission Bay, San Diego (30-2)

Last week: 5. **Season recap:** Won fourth San Diego Section Division II title in 10 years with school-record 24 HRs and .315 team batting average. Jr. Kevin Reese was 10-0 with 1.82 ERA and batted .405 with 28 RBI. Jr. Josh Glassey batted .385, and Justin Spencer batted .402 with six HRs and 39 RBI.

6. St. Thomas Aquinas,
Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (27-4)

Last week: 6. **Season recap:** Won first Class 5A state title. Billy Brown batted .425 with 41 runs, 27 RBI and 11 HRs. Chad Whitaker batted .425 with 33 RBI; Tim Burton was 10-0 with 0.23 ERA.

7. Lyman, Longwood, Fla. (31-3)

Last week: 7. **Season recap:** Won last 17 games and first Class 6A state title. Teddy Koller batted .409, and Jr. Jason Shipley batted .355; Tommy Dixon was 7-2 with 1.36 ERA.

8. GlenOak, Canton, Ohio (28-2)

Last week: 8. **Season recap:** Set school records with 28 wins, 283 runs, .342 team batting average and 107 stolen bases while winning first Division I state title. Mike Muzi was 10-0 with 0.66 ERA. Jr. Alan Gilhousen batted .382, Jr. Greg McClellan batted .381.

9. Delran, N.J. (25-1)

Last week: 9. **Season recap:** Won second Group II state title. Jim Hansen was 11-0 with four saves and 1.07 ERA. Pat Poehls was 8-0 with three saves and 0.91 ERA. Scott Gutulieus batted .416 with 32 RBI.

10. Green Run, Virginia Beach, Va. (26-2)

Last week: 10. **Season recap:** Won last 15 games and first Class 3A state title. Chris Elmore was 11-0 (19-0 career) with 0.55 ERA and 106 strikeouts in 69 innings. David Abbott batted .491; John Defere batted .405.

11. Morris, Ill. (38-4)

Last week: 11. **Season recap:** Set school records with 396 hits, 84 doubles, 13 triples and 1.58 ERA while winning first Class 2A state title. Jon Overton batted .463 with 32 stolen bases. Quinn Schafer was 13-0 with 1.10 ERA. Kevin Skrtich had school-record 17 doubles.

12. Harrison, West Lafayette, Ind. (34-2)

Last week: Not ranked. **Season recap:** Won first state title with 3-1 victory vs. Concordia (Fort Wayne). Junior Eric Martin (6-0) allowed two hits in five innings, and junior Jake Beaman allowed two hits in last two innings to get save. Eric Brunlett was 2-for-4. In semifinals, defeated state No. 1 Richmond 3-1 as junior Jason Hettinger (13-0) pitched four-hitter.

13. Providence, Charlotte (27-4)

Last week: 13. **Season recap:** Won record 27 games and first Class 4A state title. Josh Gibbons batted .415 with 30 stolen bases and 22 RBI. Travis Thompson batted .333. Jeremy Schumacher set school records with 14 wins and 137 strikeouts.

14. Calvert Hall, Towson, Md. (28-2)

Last week: 14. **Season recap:** Won Maryland Interscholastic Athletic Association A Conference title. Kevin Olkowski batted .440 with 31 runs and 39 RBI. Joe Miller batted .374 with 40 runs. Andy Bair was 9-0 with 0.11 ERA and had 104 strikeouts in 63 innings.

15. Tottenville, Staten Island, N.Y. (37-2)

Last week: 15. **Season recap:** Won last 26 games and fourth Public School Athletic League A Division title. Tom Gregorio batted .481 with 52 RBI and school-record 11 HRs. Paul Stabile was 13-0 with 0.44 ERA and batted .425. Jr. Jason Marquis was 11-0 with 1.26 ERA.

16. Norman, Okla. (34-5)

Last week: 16. **Season recap:** Won first Class 5A state title since 1958 with record 34 victories. Jr. Rick Park was 9-1 with 1.63 ERA and batted .379 with 10 HRs and 36 RBI. Jr. Tyler Bodin batted .409.

17. Columbus, Ga. (27-5)

Last week: 17. **Season recap:** Won last 15 games and fifth Class 3A state title. Jason Simmons batted .443 with 32 RBI and was 10-1 with 1.93 ERA. Jr. Derek Mann batted .433. Jr. Brent Schoening was 12-0 with 0.34 ERA and 123 strikeouts in 81 innings.

18. Mount Carmel, San Diego (30-5)

Last week: 18. **Season recap:** Won fifth San Diego Section Division I title. Jr. Eric Chavez batted .537 with school-record 51 stolen bases and record-tying 49 runs and was 11-1 with 1.31 ERA. Jr. Eric Munson batted .510. Dave Uris was 13-1 with 0.61 ERA.

19. Grand Prairie, Texas (33-4)

Last week: 19. **Season recap:** Won record 33 games while reaching Class 5A state semifinals. Kerry Wood was 14-0 with 159 strikeouts and 0.77 ERA. Jeff Dover batted .441. Kevin Walker was 12-3 with 0.86 ERA and 145 strikeouts in 98 innings.

20. Vestavia Hills, Birmingham, Ala. (32-4)

Last week: 20. **Season recap:** Set school records with 32 victories, .347 team batting average and 1.61 ERA while winning fourth Class 6A state title in five years. Jr. Josh Hancock was 10-0 with 0.92 ERA and 137 strikeouts in 72 innings. Casey Dunn batted .408; Lance Ruble batted .416.

21. Petal, Miss. (29-1)

Last week: 21. **Season recap:** Won last 24 games and third Class 4A state title. Nate Rolison set school records for batting average (.548), RBI (55), on-base percentage (.675) and slugging percentage (1.012) and made just one error at first base. Cliff Wren batted .471 with school-record 11 HRs and was 8-1 with 1.40 ERA. Jr. Jay Lewis was 9-0 with 1.33 ERA.

22. Pleasure Ridge Park, Louisville (39-3)

Last week: 22. **Season recap:** Won school-record 39 games and second consecutive state title. Andre Montgomery batted .410 with 43 RBI and tied school record with 13 HRs. Eric Bishop was 12-0 with 0.52 ERA. Eric Burdon batted .407 with 23 RBI and 30 stolen bases.

23. Antioch, Calif. (23-2)

Last week: 23. **Season recap:** Won third North Coast Section Division I-3A title. Aaron Miles batted .543 with 33 RBI. Brian Oliver batted .378. Manuel Bermudez was 11-1 with 1.44 ERA, setting school career records with 35 victories and 304 strikeouts.

24. Horizon, Scottsdale, Ariz. (27-6)

Last week: 24. **Season recap:** Won first Class 5A state title. Ryan Mills set school records with 13 victories (no losses) and 0.87 ERA. Chip Gosewisch batted .509 with 47 runs, 40 RBI.

25. Seneca Valley, Harmony, Pa. (20-7)

Last week: 25. **Season recap:** Won first Class 3A state title. Brent Ruby was 8-3 with 1.03 ERA, batted .380. Jr. Todd Raithel was 6-0 with 0.89 ERA.

▶ **Dropped out:** Richmond, Ind. (No. 12, 31-2, lost to Harrison (West Lafayette) 3-1 in state semifinals.

▶ Ranked by USA TODAY's Dave Krider

FINAL REGIONAL RANKINGS

SOUTH: 1. Germantown, Tenn. (38-0); 2. Elkins, Missouri City, Texas (32-2); 3. Key West, Fla. (35-2); 4. St. Thomas Aquinas, Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (27-4); 5. Lyman, Longwood, Fla. (31-3); 6. Green Run, Virginia Beach, Va. (26-2); 7. Providence, Charlotte (27-4); 8. Columbus, Ga. (27-5); 9. Grand Prairie, Texas (33-4); 10. Vestavia Hills, Ala. (32-4).

EAST: 1. Delran, N.J. (25-1); 2. Calvert Hall, Towson, Md. (28-2); 3. Tottenville, Staten Island, N.Y. (37-2); 4. Seneca Valley, Harmony, Pa. (20-7); 5. Seton Hall Prep, West Orange, N.J. (25-6); 6. East, Corning, N.Y. (24-1); 7. Stoneham, Mass. (25-1); 8. Connetquot, Bohemia, N.Y. (26-1); 9. Bangor, Maine (18-2); 10. Martinsburg, W.Va. (29-3).

WEST: 1. Fountain Valley, Calif. (26-3-1); 2. Mission Bay, San Diego (30-2); 3. Mount Carmel, San Diego (30-5); 4. Antioch, Calif. (23-2); 5. Horizon, Scottsdale, Ariz. (27-6); 6. Green Valley, Henderson, Nev. (31-4); 7. Cherry Creek, Englewood, Colo. (21-1); 8. Kelso, Wash. (21-6); 9. Sprague, Salem, Ore. (26-4); 10. Farmington, N.M. (21-2-1).

MIDWEST: 1. GlenOak, Canton, Ohio (28-2); 2. Morris, Ill. (38-4); 3. Harrison, West Lafayette, Ind. (34-2); 4. Norman, Okla. (34-5); 5. Providence, New Lenox, Ill. (33-3); 6. Joliet (Ill.) Catholic (29-2); 7. Grand Ledge, Mich. (35-5); 8. Brainerd, Minn. (23-3); 9. West, Appleton, Wis. (23-2); 10. East, Shawnee Mission, Kan. (21-4).

PROFESSIONAL GOLF

Congressional returns in a major way

GOLF

By Steve Hershey

BETHESDA, Md. — Just like the aging beauty down the street who disappears, then suddenly returns looking 10 years younger, Congressional Country Club is back attracting suitors.

The elegant lady of past major golf championships quietly has been in rehab, trimming down and getting a face lift. Those who saw her regularly in the early 1980s barely will recognize her this week at the U.S. Senior Open.

Welcome back, Congressional, you've been away too long.

Anyone who has watched golf highlights on TV surely has seen scenes of a heat-exhausted Ken Venturi staggering down the 18th fairway on his semi-conscious way to winning the '64 U.S. Open.

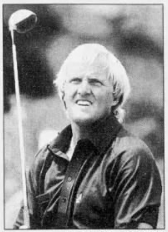
"To this day, I still don't remember a shot," Venturi says. "I was warned I could die of heat prostration if I played that final round, but I had to do it."

In the scorer's tent afterward, Venturi turned in Ray Floyd's scorecard, which he was to have kept. It was blank. Venturi hadn't entered a single score. Today, that would be a major crisis. That sauna-like day after 36 holes, everyone was more accommodating.

A man put his hand on Venturi's soaked shoulder and said, "That's all right, Ken. We'll take care of it."

It was Joe Dey, a strict U.S. Golf Association rules official, who later became the first PGA Tour commissioner.

Major championships never were greeted with great enthusiasm by elite members of Congressional. Most considered it a major inconvenience to shut the course down for a couple of weeks. However, in '76, they opened their arms again for the PGA Championship.



By Porter Binks, USA TODAY

GREG NORMAN: Kemper Open champ in '84 and '86 at Congressional.

Dave Stockton, who held off late charges by Arnold Palmer and Bob Murphy to win the '70 PGA Championship by two strokes, won his second, outlasting Floyd and Don January in a rain-delayed Monday final while wearing not-so-stylish bell-bottoms.

Stockton said he didn't bring any bell-bottom pants this year, but as a two-time winner this year and the Senior Tour's leading money-winner the last two years, he certainly has a chance to win again at Congressional.

By Porter Binks, USA TODAY

FRED COUPLES: Won '83 five-man playoff for his first PGA Tour title.

"I've heard about all the renovations," he said. "I'm anxious to play the course and see how much it's changed."

Five years after Stockton sank a 10-foot par putt to win by a stroke with a 1-over-par 281, then the highest winning score in a PGA Championship, the PGA Tour brought the Kemper Open to Congressional, and with it some remarkable milestones.

Fred Couples won his first PGA Tour event in '83, surviving a five-man playoff and the running embrace of his former wife, Deborah, after tapping in a 2-foot birdie putt on the then-par-3 16th hole.

The other four in that playoff, trivia fans: Scott Simpson, Gil Morgan, T.C. Chen and Barry Jaeckel, who finished an hour earlier and had been relaxing in the bar. Yes, he snap hooked his drive and departed early.

Greg Norman, a flamboyant Australian in his second year on Tour, collected his first U.S. tournament title the following year and immediately called Congressional one of his favorite courses.

He won again in '86, coming from behind, then beating Larry Mize in a six-hole playoff when Mize drowned his approach shot to the 18th hole.

The following year, the Kemper Open moved prematurely 5 miles down the road to the not-ready-for-tournament-play TPC of Avenel, where Tom Kite started a succession of short-hitting winners and defections by top players.

Congressional dropped out of the national scene for a while and then, when it asked for consideration for another U.S. Open, it failed scrutiny of legendary USGA executive director P.J. Boatright.

A $1.7 million renovation under the direction of noted golf architect Rees Jones has been completed and Congressional once again is receiving visitors. This week, it will be the seniors. In two years, the U.S. Open is returning.

Yes, Congressional is back hosting major championships again, and golf is richer for it.

Few players can match Sloan's background

By Jerry Potter
USA TODAY

U.S. SENIOR OPEN

BETHESDA, Md. — Years ago, Steve Sloan stood on the sideline at some of college football's biggest stadiums in Baton Rouge, Birmingham, Ala., and Miami.

But his University of Alabama teammates were there, too. And, of course, Bear Bryant was his coach, always mumbling a few words of encouragement as he sent him back into competition.

At this week's U.S. Senior Open, the former Alabama quarterback and college coach turned athletic director finds himself alone.

"I don't know that all that football experience will mean anything," said Sloan, among 39 amateurs to qualify for the Senior Open. "In football, you were with a group. Golf is just you and the ball."

Sloan, 50, is one of four to survive from the 130 who tried to qualify at Grenelefe Resort near Orlando, where Sloan is athletics director at Central Florida.

The U.S. Golf Association says 2,000 seniors tried to earn spots in the Open, which begins Thursday at Congressional Country Club. Each must have a certified handicap of 5.4 strokes or less, but whatever their skills, few could have Sloan's athletic background. He has played golf since high school but was so good at football it kept getting in the way of golf.

He played for the NFL Atlanta Falcons in 1966-67 but went into coaching. He was coach at Vanderbilt, Texas Tech, Mississippi and Duke. He has been AD at Alabama, North Texas and Central Florida.

"The amount of time I have for golf depends on the time of year," he said. "I would have tried to qualify for other national events, like the U.S. Amateur and the Mid-Amateur, but they were always in the late summer or fall, when I was busy with football."

As AD, he uses golf as a fund-raiser, so most of his competitive rounds are in pro-ams.

"The last time I played in a national sports event was when I was a quarterback with the Falcons," he said. "I could be a little nervous on Thursday."

Arnold Palmer, who practiced at Congressional Saturday, said it is realistic for an amateur to play well in the Senior Open. "But," he said, "I would say playing well is making the cut."

Last year, four amateurs made the cut. If Sloan does, he could be paired with Gibby Gilbert or Hale Irwin, pros he knows from the past.

"I used to play matches against Gibby when we were in high school around Chattanooga (Tenn.)," he said. "Hale and I played in the International Jaycees tournament in Huntington, W.Va., in 1962. And we've played in a pro-am or two since then."

Texan develops offensive skills

By Jerry Langdon
USA TODAY

SOCCER

Carl Bussey doesn't get discouraged. Nor is he afraid to change.

He participated, with mixed success, in early under-17 national men's team training camps as a defender. Then he dropped out of the picture for a while, returning to his club team, the Dallas Texans.

"They started using him up front, and he was outstanding, and we were told about it," U.S. coach Glenn Myernick said.

"We, of course, are interested in offense, and he came back and has shown lots of speed and energy. He wants to get behind the defense."

Bussey, now a forward, joins two other Texans club teammates — midfielder Nick Garcia and defender Joel Reddington — who leave today for Germany to participate in two matches in Munich with the German under-17 team, less than six weeks from the start of the World Cup in Ecuador.

"Players at this age develop at different stages, and this is another example of it," Texans manager Phil Garcia said.

"Carl has always played defense, but the coach (Abdi Adloo) thought we needed some offense at midfield, and that's where he went when he came back from the national team. He did well there, and the state team then moved him to forward, where he's just exploded. He's really shown a lot of dedication."

It isn't known if one club has ever had three national team members.

A victim: the Texans' chances for winning the state and possibly the national club championship this summer.

"We didn't go very far in the state cup without Nick and Joel, but that's all right," Garcia said. "The club is interested in developing players, and we're awfully happy with having this representation on the national team."

A-LEAGUE: The A-League All-Stars, chosen by players, will meet Mexican First Division club UNAM Pumas in the All-Star Game at 7:30 p.m. ET July 17 in Atlanta's Adams Stadium. It will be televised live on Prime Network.

NPSL: Toronto will be joining the indoor National Professional Soccer League for the 1996-97 season, according to an announcement scheduled for today. Games will be at Maple Leaf Gardens. Tampa will be the 13th team in the NPSL, debuting in 1995-96.

U.S. CUP '95: Total attendance for six games was 160,133, an average of 26,688, considered adequate by U.S. Soccer officials. U.S. Cup '92, with Ireland, Italy and Portugal, drew 187,829. U.S. Cup '93, with England, Brazil and Germany, attracted 286,761.

Corner kicks

A-LEAGUE ALL-STARS

F — Jason Dunn, Sea., Grant Needham, Mon., Rob Reed, Van., Staale Soebye, Atl., Lenin Steenkamp, Atl. **M** — Paul Dougherty, Mon., Ted Eck, Col., Peter Hattrup, Sea., Bruce Murray, Atl., Paulinho, Mon. **D** — Dan Calichman, N.Y., John Doyle, Atl., Robin Fraser, Col., Neil Megson, Sea. **G** — Paolo Ceccarelli, Mon., Marcus Hahnemann, Sea.

U.S. MEN'S OPEN CUP

Round of 16: New York Centaurs (A-League) 3, Connecticut Wolves (USISL) 0; Richmond (Va.) Kickers (USISL) 5, Washington Spartans (Md.) SC (USASA) 2; Atlanta Ruckus (A-League) 4, Tampa Bay Cyclones (USISL) 2; Chicago Stingers (USISL) 2, A.A.C. (Chicago) Eagles (USASA) 1; Colorado Foxes (A-League) 6, Flamengo (Utah) SC (USASA) 1; Chico (Calif.) Rooks (USISL) 2, San Fernando Valley Golden Eagles (USISL) 0; Seattle Sounders (A-League) 9, Everett (Wash.) Bigfoot (USISL) 2; El Paso Patriots (USISL) 5, McCormick St. Petersburg (Fla.) Kickers (USASA) 2.

U.S. WOMEN'S CUP '95

July 29 — Australia vs. Norway, Worcester, Mass.; **30** — USA vs. Taiwan, New Britain, Conn.; **Aug. 2** — Norway vs. Taiwan, Oakford, Pa.; **3** — USA vs. Australia, New Brunswick, N.J.; **5** — Australia vs. Taiwan, Richmond, Va.; **6** — USA vs. Norway, Washington, D.C.

Evans quietly rolls to senior tour lead

By Ken Brazzle
USA TODAY

BOWLING

For someone who claims to be a quiet person, Tommy Evans has not kept a low profile on the Professional Bowlers Association Senior Tour.

"I don't talk a lot; that's just my nature," Evans, the senior tour's leading money winner at $20,251, says. "I am there to bowl and not to make friends."

About 460 bowlers, plus Evans, are competing in the ABC Senior Masters that ends Friday at the National Bowling Stadium in Reno. First prize is $38,000.

Evans, 54, has won back-to-back tournaments — the Tri-Cities Classic and Northwest Classic. He also won the Japan PBA Senior Tournament, raising his unofficial earnings to $67,601.

"This is my best start," says Evans, who has spent 30 years in bowling. "I was never a regular touring pro until I turned 50. It was hard to find a sponsor, and the expenses were too great for one person."

Evans saved enough money to open several successful bowling shops. He and his wife, Lynn, live comfortably in Sunrise, Fla. They have two children: Arnold, 26, and Traci, 20.

Until four years ago, Evans spent most of his free time on the golf course.

"A friend of mine said I didn't have the courage to go out (on tour), and that was the wrong thing to say," Evans said. "I went out and bowled well and decided to go for it."

After his first PBA title at Montreal in 1992, Evans showed an emotional side.

"It was a high I cannot possibly describe," he says. "After 30 years of wanting something, all of a sudden it's yours. It was one of those situations where I let go."

In the last three years, Evans has improved. He went from a 214.27 average in 1993 to 218.47 last season. This year, he leads the seniors with a 235.14 average.

"My friend Art McKee has been working with me on adjusting the way I drill my equipment, plus I've made a couple of adjustments. Art has been the real difference in my game," Evans said.

Calif. junior drops soccer for run at greatness

By Ken Brazzle
USA TODAY

Distance runner Michael Stember broke a family tradition when he stopped playing soccer after his sophomore year at Jesuit High of Carmichael, Calif.

HIGH SCHOOLS

"It came to a point where running ran a little deeper," he says.

Since committing full time to track, the 5-10, 150-pound junior has become one of the nation's elite. Today, he was named Gatorade Boys Track and Field Athlete of the Year.

In the last two months, Stember has won the 1,500 meters (in 3 minutes, 49.74 seconds) at the Junior National Championships last week and the 1,600 at the Golden West Invitational and California Interscholastic Federation state meet.

Some predict Stember could be the next high schooler to break the four minute barrier for the 1,600.

"I don't like to talk about that," said Stember, who ran a 4:04.0 in the 1,600 at the CIF state meet. "I'd love to go under four minutes, but that's a goal I keep deep inside. It would mean more to me if I did it and didn't talk it."

STEMBER

Soccer has been the official sport at home. Older brothers Peter and Jonathan attended San Francisco State and Seattle University, respectively, on soccer scholarships.

"I played soccer and basketball, because I enjoyed both," Stember said. "I didn't single out a sport until I asked myself what it would take to be as fast as I could be. Obviously, it meant dropping other sports."

Jesuit coach Walt Lange says Stember isn't your typical distance runner: "He has his life balanced."

Stember, 17, is a soloist in the school's choir and a cheerleader. "I am pretty spirited," Stember says. "I like to think of myself as the sixth man."

HOT PROSPECT: Freshman Angela Williams, 15, of Chino (Calif.) beat an elite field in the 100 meters at the Junior National Championships in Walnut, Calif. Williams was timed in 11.24 seconds, breaking the national freshman record of 11.60.

Only three other high school girls have run 100 meters faster, and all did it as juniors. Now Williams is facing higher standards. "Once I started running, I was up on top. (Now) people expect things," says Williams, picked to compete on the U.S. team for the Junior Pan Am Games in Chile Sept. 1-3.

Williams began June by recording what was then the fastest 400 by a high schooler this season (53.40) to win the California state high school title.

On June 10, she won the 100 (12.02) and 200 (24.0) at the Golden West Invitational in Sacramento.

WHITE STARS: Indiana's girls continued to dominate their yearly basketball series with Kentucky, thanks to USA TODAY player of the year Stephanie White. She had 25 points, nine rebounds, 12 assists and seven steals in a 92-78 victory. Indiana posted its third consecutive 2-0 sweep of Kentucky. Kentucky's boys defeated Indiana 101-84 to earn a split.

Contributing: Fred Baer, Peter Brewington

▶ Gatorade boys track honorees, 9C